(c) the manner in which Government proposes to save the vulnerable sections of society from this menace of stray dogs, etc. which is persisting in full swing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government to Animal Welfare Organizations, through out the country for sterilization and immunization of stray dogs for control of their population and rabies.

Industrial units in residential areas

1074. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that despite the orders of the Member Secretary UP Pollution Control Board, for the closure of an industrial unit running in residential area of Buxi Bazar, Khuldabad, Allahabad no action has been taken so far;

(b) if so, the reasons for not closing such industrial units which are running in the residential areas violating the provisions of the Environmental Acts; and

(c) the action Government and Central Pollution Control Board propose to take for the closure of such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) As per the information furnished by the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB), the Board has identified M/s Natraj Tiles located in the residential area of Buxi bazar, Allahabad to be violating the provisions of the relevant environmental Act. The UPPCB has requested the Nagar Nigam, Allahabad to take action against the industry as directed by the Hon'ble High Court on 13.08.2003 in Writ Petition No. 34957/2003 Smt. Mithilesh Jain (Agra) v/s State of U.P. the UPPCB has also issued show cause notice to the industry under Section 31A of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 dated 27.11.07. No Objection Certificate (NOC) is not being issued for establishing any industry in residential area by the UPPCB.

Import of environment hazardous waste

1075. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that ship loads of environment hazardous waste are being imported to the country from developed countries;

(b) whether it is a fact that domestic waste from US has been imported *via* Cochin Port;

(c) if so, details thereof;

(d) the action taken to prevent such incidents; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Import of hazardous waste into the country is subject

to the provisions of the Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended in 2000 & 2003. No hazardous waste is allowed to be imported in the country for dumping and disposal.

(b) to (e) As per the information provided by the Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), the Board was informed by the Customs Authorities in the beginning of October, 2007 about one consignment of waste paper mixed with waste plastics, glass pieces, municipal solid waste etc. having arrived at the Cochin Port, Kerala. In view of the Same, the customs Authorities were advised by the KSPCB to send back the cargo to the port of origin at the expense of the importer. The said cargo is since reported to have been returned to the exporter.

Boundary negotiations with China

1076. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eleventh round of boundary negotiations were held in Beijing in the month of September, 2007 and useful and positive discussions were held;

(b) if so, whether India and China have set up a new working group on border dispute;

(c) whether India also drew the attention of China that its troops had made at least 140 border incursions over the past one year, most of them in J&K Ladakh region and in Arunachal Pradesh;

(d) if so, the other decisions taken; and

(e) whether any final settlement on border dispute has been reached?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) The eleventh round of special Representatives Talks on the India-China boundary question was held in Beijing from 24 to 26 September 2007. The Special Representatives of the two countries, Mr. M.K. Narayanan, National Security Adviser and Mr. Dai Bingguo, Vice Foreign Minister held useful and positive discussions on the framework for the settlement of the India-China boundary question. The two sides agreed to continue their discussions at the next round of talks to be held in Beijing. The specific dates would be decided through diplomcatic channels.

There is no commonly delineated Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India and China. From time to time, on account of differences in the perception of the LAC, situations have arisen on the ground that could have been avoided if we had a common perception of the LAC. Government regularly take up such perceived violations along the LAC with the Chinese side through established mechanisms including the Joint Working Group, the Expert Group, border personnel meetings, flag meetings and normal diplomactic channels.

Indo-Pak Peace Talks

†1077. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to several rounds of Indo-Pak peace talks during the last many years

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.